We Listen to God Speak

Song of Preparation *Shine on Us*

Scripture Nahum 1 Pew Bible Page #1336

Leader: "This is the Word of the Lord." ***People: "Thanks be to God."***

Message "A Refuge for Good News"

Prayer of Application

Sent Out to Serve

Offering General Fund
(offerings may be given online or placed in the baskets at each entrance)

*Song *He Will Hold Me Fast*

*God's Parting Blessing
*Parting Song of Praise *Our God Reigns* *PsH 195*
*Postlude

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SERMON NOTES

Scripture: Nahum 1 Pew Bible Page #1336
Message: "A Refuge for Good News"

Allen Avenue Christian Reformed Church



Pastor Mark Hofman
November 8, 2026
Worship 10:00AM

Come Now is the Time to Worship!

November 8, 2026
Pastor Mark Hofman

We Gather to Worship

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Invitation to Quiet

Call to Worship (Psalm 46)

Leader: God is our refuge and strength,
an ever-present help in trouble.
People: Therefore, we will not fear, though the earth give way and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea,
Leader: though its waters roar and foam
and the mountains quake with their surging.
People: There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God, the holy place where the Most High dwells.
Leader: God is within her, she will not fall;
God will help her at break of day.

*Songs of Praise — *Lord Most High* — *LUYH 593*
Shout to the Lord — *LUYH 603*

*God's Greeting

*We Greet One Another

We Are Renewed in God's Grace

Litany — *The Ten Commandments* — *LUYH 722*

Leader: You shall have no other gods before me.
People: For from him and through him and to him are all things. To him be the glory forever!
Leader: You shall not make for yourself an idol.
People: In Christ we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins. He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation.
Leader: You shall not misuse the name of the Lord your God, for the Lord will not hold anyone guiltless who misuses his name.
People: Let us continually offer to God a sacrifice of praise— the fruit of lips that confess his name.
Leader: Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy. Six days you shall labor and do all your work, but the seventh day is a Sabbath to the Lord your God.
People: Let the Word of Christ dwell in you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom, and as you sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs with gratitude in your hearts to God.
Leader: Honor your father and your mother, so that you may live long in the land the Lord your God is giving you.
People: Children, obey your parents in everything, for this pleases the Lord.
Leader: You shall not murder.
People: Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you.
Leader: You shall not commit adultery.
People: You are not your own; you were bought at a price. Therefore, honor God with your body.
Leader: You shall not steal.
People: Those who have been stealing must steal no longer, but must work, doing something useful with their hands, so that they may have something to share with those in need.
Leader: You shall not give false testimony against your neighbor.
People: Instead, speaking the truth in love, we will in all things grow up into him who is the Head, that is, Christ.
Leader: You shall not covet your neighbor's house
or anything that belongs to your neighbor.
People: I have learned to be content whatever the circumstances.

Song — *Your Mercy Flows (women on echo)* — *LUYH 700*

Children's Message — Stephanie Hofman

Children's Blessing

As you worship the Lord,
may he go with you, may his Spirit live in you,
and may his love fill you.
Praise him with thanksgiving.
Go in peace.

Prayers of the People — Pastor Mark

(Order of Worship continued on the back page)

We Live to B.L.E.S.S.

***B**elieve. **L**ove. **E**vangelize.*

***S**upport Christian Instruction. **S**erve.*

NURSERY & COFFEE FELLOWSHIP

11/8: Nursery: Nancy Rop & Becki Fisher
Sunday School: Melisa Vlasma & Deb Anderson
Coffee Fellowship: Judy, Eric, & Stacy Vaandering, Sandy & Ron
11/15: Nursery: Charry Snyder & Addie Maat
Sunday School/Catechism: Dale Johnson & Stephanie Hofman
Coffee Fellowship: Scott & Toni Schuitema
11/22: Nursery: Karen Alphenaar & Mary Maat
Sunday School: Kristen Vlasma & Emma Peklar
Coffee Fellowship: Randy & Becki Fisher
11/29: Nursery: Becki Fisher & Annabell Snyder
Sunday School: Carol Peterman & Amber Johnson
Coffee Fellowship: Dean & Amber Johnson

ALLEN AVENUE MISSIONARIES

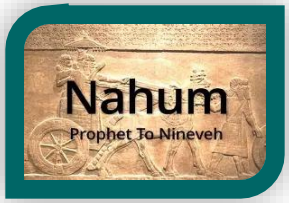
Pray for the * Missionary this Week
Eric & Judith Tuls – Operation Mobilization
New Era Hispanic Church Plant
Pastor Jeffery Hough – Angel Community Church
Paul & Charlotte Mpindi–Mission French Africa
*****Charles & Hensel Oh – Japan***

ALLEN AVENUE CARE LIST

1) Wilma Doctor
2) Joel Stefanits

*Please call or send a card to Care List Member, **Joel!**
OPTALIS—1061 W. Hackley
Muskegon, MI 49441

Heavenly Father, thank you for your great care for our loved ones on the care list. Today, we come to you and ask you to shine Your light into the lives of these dear people. Reveal Yourself as their Protector, Provider, & King. You overcame sin and death on the cross, and we pray that your victory will surround our loved ones and offer them hope and peace and Your love! Amen!



A Warm Welcome to Our Visitors, Guests, & Members!

We are so glad you have joined us in worship today as we praise the Lord of the Harvest as His sowers & reapers! Pastor Mark is continuing a new sermon series for the month of November on short books of the Bible! Today we will study Nahum 1 –"A Refuge for Good News." Join us in the lower level after the worship service for a great time of fellowship with the family of God & CAKE! ☺

COUNCIL & DENOMINATION NEWS

Council Actions from the Meeting on 10/28/26:
1. Received the 2027 budget proposal from the Finance Committee and voted to recommend it for congregational approval.
2. Voted to recommend to the congregation the installation of air conditioning in the sanctuary and balcony at a cost not to exceed $75,000 (quotes received for $67,363), pending congregational approval with a simple majority vote. Funds to come from congregational pledges specifically for this project, with the balance to come from the General Fund.
3. Finalized the list of members who have blessed us by accepting nominations to serve on the 2027 Council: For elder- Gord Peterman, Steve Rop, Sue Sytsema, Dave VanRees. For deacon- Kelly Dauser, Becki Fisher, Denise Koetje, Dave Rop. At our congregational meeting, two elders and two deacons will be selected by drawing names.
4. Voted to offer council members completing three years of service a break of three years before their names are placed into nomination again.
5. Approved a motion from the Ad Hoc Safety Committee for additional security enhancements, cost not to exceed $3,100 from the General Fund.
6. Upcoming dates:
11/15: Town Hall meeting for discussion of proposals
11/19: Council Meeting
11/22: Congregational Meeting for voting on proposals, Council selection
11/26: Thanksgiving Service at 10:00am

CHURCH ACTIVITIES & OPPORTUNITIES

Have questions about today's sermon? Want to join others in discussion about it? Connect group is meeting shortly after the service and fellowship time in the lounge off of the kitchen in the lower level. This group is for all who would like to participate. Have questions…please see Denise Koetje or Charry Snyder.

CHURCH ACTIVITIES & OPPORTUNITIES



Come eat some pancakes! The Allen Ave Cadets are hosting a pancake breakfast fundraiser, **Saturday, November 21 from 8-10AM.** Invite your friends and neighbors. Donations support the Cadet Program and also financially aid Cadets or counselors who attend Camporees.

Muskegon Christian School has been very blessed with members from AACRC watching staff kids during Monday staff meetings and faith integration training. We are prayerfully looking for volunteers on the following dates from 3:00-4:30. November 9, December 7 and 14, January 4&11. Please reach out to Nate Schout at :nschout@mchristianschool.com

It's Allen Avenue's turn to assist the residents of Christian Care with their worship and Lord's Supper on Wednesday, November 18, at 1:00pm. If you are able to serve with Pastor Mark, please talk to him today.

Men's Bible Study will meet on Monday, November 16, at 6:15pm, to study Lesson 24 in our Hebrews books pages 45-56, "The Performance of Faith." All men are always welcome to join, so see Brian Schuitema if you need a book.

"Hearts on Fire" Women's Bible Study will conclude our book study on the Holy Spirit on Thursday, November 19 , from 1:30-3:00pm in the library. Study our final lesson Session 5 "Our Gift-Giver of Life" on pages 85-104.

Kids' Corner Devotions: When Things Go Wrong - Check out this week's kids' devotion, "When Things Go Wrong" at www.kidscorner.net. Have you ever made a big mistake? Have you ever said mean things to yourself? Sometimes we try our hardest, but things still don't turn out the way we want. Colossians 3:12 reminds us of how much God loves us. As his children, God calls us to be gentle, kind, humble, meek, and patient. And that's not just toward other people. It's also toward ourselves.

Thrive Faith Formation Tip - "Wondering questions" are an excellent way to engage kids (and people of all ages!) with Scripture. For example, after you read the creation story, ask open-ended questions like "I wonder what it looked like when God created the stars?" "I wonder what it would be like if there were no predators in our world?" "I wonder what you would feel like if you were the first person in God's creation?" Take some time to read a favorite Bible passage this week, asking wondering questions to explore the text in a new way. Brought to you by Thrive: crcna.org/Thrive

PRAYER REQUESTS & THANKSGIVINGS

*****If you have exciting news to share, something to praise God for, or want the congregation to be in prayer for you or your family, please contact Pastor Mark or Susan Vanderlaan to include it in the bulletin!**



In the Bible, it rained for 40 days and 40 nights. Day 41 came and the rain stopped. Moses committed murder & hid in the desert for 40 years. Year 41 came, and God called him to help rescue Israel. Moses went up on the mountain for 40 days. On day 41, he received the Ten Commandments. The Israelites wandered in the wilderness for 40 years. Year 41, they walked into the Promised Land. Goliath taunted Israel for 40 days. Day 41 came, and David slew him. Jonah preached a message of repentance to Ninevah for 40 days. On day 41, God stopped His plan to destroy them. Jesus fasted and was tempted for 40 days. Day 41, and the devil fled. After His resurrection, Jesus appeared to His disciples for 40 days. On day 41, He ascended into Heaven.



All this to say...don't quit. The rain will stop, the giant will fall, and you will enter your "promised land." Don't give up at 40...41 is coming!

OUR MISSION STATEMENT IS: WE LIVE TO B.L.E.S.S.

We are called by God to:

Believe – We Believe in One Triune God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. We Believe that the Bible is the true and inspired Word of God. Our belief is reinforced by our active, wholehearted worship as the body of Christ.

Love – We Love and care for one another in unity as the body of Christ. As children of God, we show and express that love to those around us.

Evangelize - We Evangelize by sharing the Good News of Jesus Christ with our neighbors, coworkers, friends, and those we meet. We support and participate in mission efforts locally, nationally, and across the globe.

Support – We Support Christian instruction of both adults and children, in the church, in the home, & in our Christian schools with our gifts, prayers, and time.

Serve - We Serve those around us with the compassion of Christ allowing opportunities to meet their physical and spiritual needs.